

The Dead Horse 2012 50th issue

DISPATCH

A newsletter by and for the volunteers of Dead Horse Ranch State Park

Hoowdy, from way out west Wickenburg way... We arrived late Saturday after being home only five days from Hawaii. We must be nuts, trying to get all this moving out of Joe's home, storage, Hawaii for two weeks and then the final move out on Friday. We stayed at my son's family Saturday night, because the winds were horrible between mesquite, NV, and Las Vegas. We didn't try to beat any clock getting to Lake Pleasant on Saturday. This park is nearly 24,000 acres, of which the lake is over 10,000. We have a paved large pad with full canopy and a view of the lake. The visitor center is absolutely beautiful, mostly glass looking out on the lake. They have just begun putting water back into the lake from the Colorado River. It is used for irrigation for AZ and CA. Biggest surprise, no one is a ranger; just full time for county employees! So far, everyone we've met, are really laid back and very friendly. We had to go to Phoenix Monday to get finger printed. The reservation system is going to be a challenge I'm sure... We cannot work until we get the ok back from the Sheriffs Dept. and with the holidays, it could be after the first of the year. Oh well, who really cares? Our plans of being alone for Christmas have changed from being alone to driving to Laquinta, CA,, where both of my sisters live. Spending Christmas Eve and Christmas day with the entire family. The weather turned a little cooler last night, with some winds and rain, but great today. I think we both will be very happy at this park. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you. Fondly and with love, Laurie Blitsch and Joe

Hope that I'm the first person to
put a Christmas tree on your phone!
If luck is a raindrop
I'd send you a shower
If hope is a minute
I'd send you an hour
If happiness is a leaf
I'd give you a tree
If you need a friend
You'll always have me.
Peace, Randy Victory & Nancy



Greetings from Betty Hall and Wayne Quimby! We ended our work at DHRSP on December 31, 2011 to take over management of "Airpark Storage" up past the airport on Mingus Mountain (420 Happy Jack Way). This will be our home for at least another year. We've kept in contact with volunteer friends since we left as we could. Our days as camp hosts will always be remembered and treasured. The rangers and volunteers are so special! Blessings to you all! ~ B & W

5/1/12 Bill Hughes: Fish Stocked at DHRSP. Bill Hughes is our maintenance host in Quail Loop. Connie & Bill Hughes are our newbees.

Submitted by Ranger Linda Hawk

5/1/12 Hope these pics are good and OK for you. Fish Dumping into the Lagoons. Roy & Judy Farmer



6/23/12 Carolyn, I have attached pictures of a large Black Hawk on a branch near the entrance to the Cabins. We'll let you decide which one might be best for the newsletter. Roy & Judy Farmer, Cabin Hosts

We are staying home this winter. I had spinal surgery November 2, and have just started therapy. Recovery is slow, but I WILL be hiking again by spring. Jim had shoulder surgery in August and is recovered enough to be a splendid caregiver for me. We have had a lovely warm fall, but winter came in hard this week. We had close to a foot of snow, it cleared off last night (Dec 19) and it was about -20 this morning. -42 at Tabernash, CO, which is about 15 miles from us. We are enjoying the White Christmas season. Maryan Pharo & Jim Harris

Just wanted to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope that the New Year will bring nothing but happiness to you and your family. Bob and Toni Mann

Hi Carolyn: I just sent you two pictures from my iPhone - one of a snow scene in Rico Colorado and the other of me. So do whatever you wish or don't use them at all, either is fine with me. Happy New Year to All at DHRSP. It is finally snowing and looking a lot like winter in Rico, CO, so I am now doing my other job - shoveling snow! It is beautiful and I enjoy it for now, but will really be ready to get out of it by March. It was 32 for a high today and -4 this morning, but some days get up to 50! I miss all of you and hope to be able to come back next fall, but will stop to visit in the spring (maybe January!) If anyone is up this way, come and visit me and we will have Happy Hour at my house in the mountains. Have a great winter and a Great New Year. Hugs to all,
Jerrie Matthews



Pic 1 Bill Zeller looking at moose sign in the woods behind their home in NH
Pic 2 Anne Zeller on the Blue Ridge Parkway, 2012

Hi Carolyn, Bill and Anne Zeller have taken off a year or so from volunteering to spend time with friends and family at home in NH. Our youngest grandchild just turned one year old and we could be at his party and with all the children and grandchildren for the Christmas season. We spend the summer at our rustic camp in the North Maine Woods, where we enjoy a second set of friends. We will take a couple of months anyway starting in mid February and head south and spend it in the southeast this year and probably the southwest next winter. We have downsized from a 40' motor home to a little Sprinter van, which is better for traveling, but not for living in. However, 25 MPG is sure nice. We still enjoy hiking, paddling, motorcycling and keeping busy with cutting and splitting our winters wood, mowing lawns, shoveling snow, etc. Perhaps we will return to volunteering one year soon, as we have made so many good friends this way over the 10 years we were doing it. For a couple years anyway we will probably just travel visiting State and National Parks across this great land! Can't attach a photo here so will send one separately, Merry Christmas, Bill and Anne Zeller



Dear Carolyn, We have appreciated the newsletters so very much. Thank you for your excellent work! Deadhorse is a wonderful park and has the greatest staff ever. We enjoyed our two summers there...2007 being our last one. I was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2008 and in November had surgery to remove that kidney. I'm fortunately doing fine. Then, in 2011, had knee replacement surgery. OUCH! We enjoy living in Sun City and still enjoy traveling some. We're going on a cruise in February to celebrate our 80th birthdays. Bob is in good health. He plays golf twice a week and always has a "to do" list. News of the staff and Eric and Rebecca's little Nathan were the first thing we looked for in the newsletters. We do hope everyone is doing well. We imagine George's little girls are growing up. We're looking forward to getting the latest news and will certainly miss future newsletters. Much love, Bob and Elsie Ross

Dear Carolyn, I was sorry to hear this may be the last newsletter. It was always enjoyable to read about George, Eric, Justin, Randy, and the rest of the staff as well as the volunteers with whom I had the pleasure of serving. I will always have the fondest of memories for DHRSP including the great times hiking, fishing, biking, and exploring the Park and surrounding area. In early 2011, I obtained a paragliding license and have spent the last two summers flying some very beautiful areas. Here is a picture flying Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore in northern Michigan. All the best to the staff and volunteers in the New Year. Ed Lyon

Hi Carolyn, Thank you for all your hard work over the past years getting the newsletter together. You have gladdened the hearts of a lot of people and helped to keep the group together through the newsletter. My wife Loma and I spent the summer at our mountain "cabin" in Show Low. I volunteered at Fool Hollow State Park while we were there. We really enjoy the White Mountain area and all the activities available to do. Since returning to Cottonwood, I have been working some at Dead Horse Ranch this fall, but not as much as I would like to. There have been a few medical issues cropping up in my life causing me to miss out. I will be undergoing some tests soon that hopefully will give us a path to coping with these things. I should be back soon and going strong in time for the Snow Bird rush to the park. Thanks again and hope to see everyone soon. Bud Jenkins

On May 30th we had a Surprise Birthday party for Volunteer Jake Pratt, at Raven Loop Ramada, along with a going away party for Tom and Joyce Reese. We also had a "welcome-to-our-park" for new volunteers: Shirley & John Cossey and Bill & Connie Hughes. Bill & Connie are Maintenance volunteers in Quail Loop and John & Shirley are Campground Host. This is their first time volunteering at DHR and they are fitting in nicely. Judy & Gale Schmidt made homemade black walnut & vanilla ice cream. Yum!! Tom & Joyce Reese provided the cake and everyone brought potluck. A good time was had by all. Tom and Joyce will be coming back in August. They are missed already!
Submitted by Ranger Linda Hauk



These pictures were sent by Gale Schmidt.



Submitted by Ranger Eric Buzonas

Thank you for the time you have spent putting together a newsy paper. We have enjoyed. Keith and Judi Mangels are wintering in Casa Grande at Sundance 1 RV Resort, in a part model. Yes, we are enjoying the extra room as the RV is in storage in Iowa. We look forward to returning to our home in early Spring. We work at Pikes Peak State Park in McGregor, IA as well as meeting ourselves coming and going at home. We are now great grandparents to two wonderful boys, both in Iowa. Miss everyone. We love all of you.



10/26-10/28 Here are two pictures from the Adrian Empire Reenactment group here at the park this weekend of 10-26 through 10-28-12. Capture the Duke (above) is a mock battle where the two sides try to protect their leader from the other side. They move back and forth and try to out maneuver the opposing side. Battle on the Bridge (below) is set up with the rope that you see representing the walls of a bridge or approach to a castle. The soldiers in the front row make a shield wall and the rest of the troops try to get past the shield wall and attack the rest of the troops. It was interesting to note that even with the cooler weather; the armor became very hot and uncomfortable in a short time.

Ranger Max Castillo

Submitted by Ranger Randy Victory



Bernie and I are currently at LCRA (Lower Colorado River Authority) serving as park host in Bastrop, Texas, which is located near Austin. We winter in the Austin area each year. Last summer we park hosted at a State Park near Missoula, Montana, and will be returning there in May 2013. We wish everyone at DHRSP a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Bernie and Teresa Munson

Hi Carolyn, This year's Christmas party for DHR was graciously hosted by Volunteers Penny and Peter Andress, at their home in Clarkdale, on Dec 20. Penny had her home festively decorated throughout, and the wonderful smell of hot apple cider and lasagna baking when we all arrived. All who attended had a wonderful time and really appreciated the home Christmas feeling. Thank you so much Penny, Peter and Zach for making our party so wonderful and welcoming to the volunteers and rangers at Dead Horse Ranch State Park.

We are John and Winky Gibson. We hosted at DHRSP the fall of 2006. We didn't get back the following year, but went on to host in the fall at Roper Lake SP for a few more years. We "retired" again in 2010, after taking some long trips to California to visit our Grandson, and then taking a trip to Ohio to visit family. It was harder on us than we thought, so came an end to volunteer work at State Parks. We do volunteer to help with projects with friends, family and our church. We bought a home in the Deming, NM area where we have settled with our 2 dogs and 3 cats. We remember working alongside some wonderful people. Eric and Randy were two of our favorite Rangers to work with ... Most the time <:0) One day Randy tried to pull a joke on Winky when she went into the office restroom. He stretched scotch tape across the door jams, but placed it a tad bit high and as she came through the door she caught a glimpse of the tape and ducked under it. The laugh was on Randy! John will not forget the big rattle snake who was meandering down the road as we were out for a walk. Oh yeah, we can't forget the cold ride at night in the golf cart to close and lock the gates when it was our turn. All in all we have good memories of our time spent at Dead Horse Ranch State Park.
~John & Winky

Su and I are doing as well as our health allows us. Su was diagnosed with Celiac disease (can't eat gluten) a couple years ago and has had to totally change her eating habits. My heart went into arterial fibrillation 2 years ago, so I'm now on Coumadin and can't do a lot of physical work, but we do get around pretty good and have been doing a lot of traveling. We sold our big Safari Motorhome and have since bought a new 2011 Itasca Rey motorhome. We have taken several long trips in it and were at Dead Horse for a visit last winter. This past summer we took our Grandson Andrew for a two month history tour of the east coast. Hit D.C., Williamsburg, Gettysburg, Valley Forge, Philly, and a week in Boston. It was a great trip that Andrew will never forget. This coming Feb. we will be coming back to DHRSP for a visit and then on to San Antonio, New Orleans, Biloxi and Jacksonville Fla. to visit friends. We really miss our volunteering time at Dead Horse and at Yellowstone, but our medical stuff doesn't allow us to be gone more than a couple months at a time. I hope that all of you are doing well and are able to hit the road from time to time. If you are in our area, give us a call (360-701-0176) and stop by for a visit. Bill & Su Cain

Glad to be Back at Dead Horse for the winter of 2012 & 13 in Quail # 42. In maintenance, being a part of keeping all trucks and equipment serviced, also doing compliance when needed. For everyone at Dead Horse and has been a part of, stay Healthy and have a Happy New Year. From the North Woods of Wisconsin, Carl Hartman



Carolyn Meehan & sister, Trish Muchler, bought a house in Vero Beach, FL, June 2012. But, you rarely find Carolyn there; she is flying to visit her kids or on Cape Cod, MA.

Hi Everyone, This is your Editor, Carolyn Meehan. It is sad to be leaving you all and maybe some things will change and we will all be able to communicate again with one another. Have a Happy & Blessed New Year!



Great Idea Carolyn, here's my short report: Merry Christmas my DHR friends. I've had a busy summer and fall traveling all over the country and have landed in Tucson, at Desert Trails RV Park, for the winter. Here I'm heading up an RV Travel Club and aiding with the Photography club. I even find time to tell stories at the Writers Club. Along with having some skin cancer removed and going through a facial Peel to remove potential skin cancer, I'll be looking 10 years younger in no time. Hope it works, cause all those hot springs I've enjoyed haven't been my fountain of youth yet ... but I'll keep trying. Miss all you great volunteers and DHR rangers, your traveling buddy, Douglas Palosaari

Ps if there's space for me in Mid March/April or May, I'm available!

"Exploring the back roads one mile at a time"

BLOG:

<http://rovingreportsbydoug.blogspot.com>

PICTURES:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/douglas.palosaari>

Hi Carolyn, Happy Holidays to you and yours and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2013. It seems that the DHRSP newsletter is going to be discontinued. To my thinking, the newsletter is a nice connecting element for volunteers and rangers alike. As for myself, I am still wandering about some parts of the park in the mornings or walk the trails (Raptor Hill, Lyme Kiln, marsh etc), still with camera when I am not in a hurry. I wish you all the best and hopefully one day, we might bump into each other in the park. Roswitha

Hi Carolyn: You did such a wonderful job for so many years, I think we become complacent about how much actual work it takes to put it all together. You are correct that we are in flux, but I also believe that we prioritize what we feel is most important, so we have some change issues to address. Perhaps the use of social media should be looked at as a way to continue the type of connectivity the newsletter gave people, with less work involved - but then you sacrifice some editing control, plus for some a new technology takes time to get used to. So, I am sorry to see the end of the Dead Horse newsletter. Please know that your work was much appreciated and greatly valued by many, including some of us in Phoenix.

Please take care, and Happy New Year. Nicole Armstrong-Best



4/1/12 This is where Elizabeth and I have been for the last two years ... (time flies). The first photo is of Dillingham on Nushigak Bay (about 10 miles from where we live), taken April 1. The second is of Kanakanak Hospital compound where Elizabeth works and we live. The hospital is the building with all the red roofs, The green roofed building is a substance abuse rehab center. Our house is the first of the four white structures to the left of the hospital. It's a fourplex. We have the right rear corner and the basement underneath. The third photo is of Elizabeth and Mariana on Kanakanak Beach along Nushigak Bay, taken May 28. The bay at this point is about a quarter mile from the house. With the exception of the grandkids last summer, Mariana is our first visitor from the lower 48. She has decided to make Alaska her permanent home and is already setting up interviews here and other hospitals in southwest Alaska.

Alaska - The Last Frontier, Les Bovee

7/9/12 Here are some photos: Les & Elizabeth Bovee

The aftermath of a storm we had last week:

www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.3181806804576.104014.1847895888&type=3&l=c6dff6e096

Our fishing trip near Ekwok on the Nushagak:

www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.3155480106425.103358.1847895888&type=3&l=0deb3a4d85

The end of salmon season:

www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.3181359033382.104008.1847895888&type=3&l=70d7334d68



June

1-Seldon"Bob" Nason
2-Helen Kemp
6-Bud & Loma Jenkins (1986)
7-Barbie Hart
9-Ray Serba
14-Del Foster
16-John Ward
20-William & Janet Birtwell (1985)
21-Maryan Harris
23-Carolyn McCartney
27-Susan B Beach

July

1-Bernie & Teresa Munson (1972)
2-Ann Nason
4-Sandra Nelson
6-Gale Schmidt
7-Chuck & Brenda Mullins
9-JoAnn Munsell
12-John & Pat (1986)
12-Betty Lawrick
14-Charles Castle
15-Sharon Munson
17-Carol Johnson
17-Emerson & Karen Trushel (1963)
18-Vern & Janet Sisson (1979)
19-Pat Pauly
22-Dave Penny
24-Robert & Sandy Nelson (1987)
25-Randy Victory
25-Betty Wolters
27-John Hoopes
27-Steve & Linda Guthrie (1966)

August

1-Bernie & Teresa Munson (1972)
2-Ann Nason
4-Sandra Nelson
6-Gale Schmidt
7-Chuck & Brenda Mullins
9-JoAnn Munsell
12-John & Pat (1986)
12-Betty Lawrick
14-Charles Castle
15-Sharon Munson
17-Carol Johnson



MileStones

17-Emerson & Karen Trushel (1963)
18-Vern & Janet Sisson (1979)
19-Pat Pauly
22-Dave Penny
24-Robert & Sandy Nelson (1987)
25-Randy Victory
25-Betty Wolters
27-John Hoopes
27-Steve & Linda Guthrie (1966)

September

1-Wes & Carolyn Scott (2001)
2-James Dunn
4-Keith Mangels
6-Wayne Quimby & Betty Hall (2009)
11-Gordon Lawrick
18-Judy Farmer
19-Tom and Anne Howe (1964)
21-Patrick Rhoads
22-Mr and Mrs Bob Forrest (1956)
22-Bud Jenkins
22-Steve Guthrie
23-Bob & Ann Nason
23-Jerry Watters
23-Jan Colburn
24-Bill LaFleur
25-Emmo Oltmanns
27-John & Wanda Ward (1969)
28-George Christianson

October

1-Teresa Munson
6-Fran Nile
10-Max Castillo
10-Barbie & John Hart (1986)
13-Karen Trushel
13-Vern Sisson
14-Linda Guthrie
15-Marilyn Aker
15-Bill Zeller
17-Tom & Joyce Reese (2009)
18-Carolyn Meehan
19-Burt & Kathy Appling (1957)
20-Elsie Ross
21-Judson & JoAnn Munsell (1961)
23-David Nank
29-Gigi House
31-Peter Hardy



November

3-Charles & Billie Castle (1962)
5-Tony Viotti
11-Roger & Carolyn McCartney
11-Janet Birtwell
12-Gale & Judy Schmidt (1983)
13-Carol Nank
14-Joyce Reese
16-Bob Akey
18-Del & Anne Foster
18-Jo Wishnie
19-Dick Niemi
22-Robert (Bob) Mann
24-Dan Albright

December

2-Bill Warner
4-Susan Williamson
6-Barbara Penny
6-Frank Larramore
7-Wayne Kemp
8-Sal Cirincione
9-Laurie Blitsch
10-Mary Soukup
12-Trish Muchler
15-Wanda Ward
17-George Stolze
18-Nancy Hardy
26-Rose Larramore
29-Miriam Sterling
30-Paul Grove

